

6th Regional Coordinators' Meeting ICP Asia Pacific Report

13-22 September 2005
Washington, D.C.

ICP Asia Pacific Recent Activities

Date	Activity
14-15 April	TP training for Regional Office
18-19 April	TP training for NSO, Philippines
20-22 April	TP training for Hong Kong, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Taipei, Thailand, Vietnam
27 April	TP training for MSPI, India
23-24 May	Fourth RAB meeting
13-15 June	TP training for Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Macao, Mongolia

ICP Asia Pacific Recent Activities

Date	Activity
16-18 June	TP training for Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand
28 June – 2 July	Ring List Finalization Workshop
4-8 July	DRW for Hong Kong, Philippines, Taipei, Vietnam
15-16 July	TP training for NSC, Lao PDR
1-6 August	Finalization Workshop for Non-household Consumption Items

ICP Asia Pacific Recent Activities

Date	Activity
8-12 August	DRW for Bhutan, Fiji, Indonesia, Macao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Sri Lanka
15 – 17 August	TP training for BTEI, Thailand
29 August – 2 September	DRW for Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Iran, Lao PDR, Nepal, Thailand

Other ICP Asia Pacific Activities 2005

Date	Activity
28 September – 5 October	DRW for 2nd Quarter data
October	Training for domestic experts for construction & equipment
October	Poverty Workshop
November	DRW for 3rd Quarter data

Status of Price Surveys in the Asia Pacific Region

Status of Price Surveys

- All 23 participating countries have started their surveys as of April 2005, however, two countries did not conduct first quarter surveys
- Four countries surveyed only Food, Clothing & Footwear items in the first quarter surveys
- Twenty one countries have submitted their first quarter average prices to the RO, but one country did not submit raw price data

Status of Price Surveys

- **As of July, 22 countries have surveyed the full HH consumption basket**
- **Six countries survey urban areas only**
- **Seventeen countries will submit prices with urban/rural dimension**

Data Review Workshops

Data Review Workshops Held

Date	Participating Countries
4-8 July	Hong Kong, China; Philippines; Taipei,China; Vietnam
8-12 August	Bhutan; Fiji; Indonesia; Macao, China; Malaysia; Mongolia; Sri Lanka
29 August – 2 September	Bangladesh, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, India, Lao PDR, Nepal, Thailand, Brunei, Iran

Data Validation Procedures for Countries

- **To ensure reliability & accuracy of price data RO prepared the following:**
 - ✓ **“Data Validation Procedure for Countries”**
 - ✓ **Automated intra-country data validation procedure**

Issues Identified during the DRWs

- **Priced product does not meet product specifications in the product list**
- **A mixture of high & low quality products were priced, when no brand is specified**
- **Some price quotations were collected from high-end outlets**
- **Different interpretations in the UOM, especially where UOM is "count"**
- **Mismatch in preferred quantities in TP & the product list**

Issues Identified during the DRWs

- Divergence in the converted prices in PCM & BUU for data entry due to non-matching of preferred quantities in TP & the product list
- Data entry errors
- Errors in conversion of units
- Treatment of free services; e.g. service fee for ATM withdrawals
- Difficulty in formulating product specifications for some products; e.g. ladies' handbags, leather wallet & watches

Decisions taken to address DRW issues

- **Countries requested to review their data**
- **Recommendation for a methodology for computing electricity & water rates**
- **Preparation of a table on UOMs & quantities to guide countries in price data collection**
- **Revisions & improvement in the product list**

Decisions taken to address DRW issues- Revisions in the Product List

	Number of items
Expanded products	6
Products with <u>changes/modifications</u> in the product specifications	17
Products with <u>clarifications</u> in the product specifications	158
Products without any changes	468
Total no. of products in the original product list	651
<u>New products created from 6 expanded products</u>	13
Deleted products	4
Total no. of products in the revised product list	660

Status of GDP Expenditure Weights

GDP Weights Estimation

- **Nineteen countries have submitted GDP weights**
- **Reference year ranges from 2002 to 2004**
- **One country opted to participate only in the household consumption comparison**

Estimation & Extrapolation Concerns

Estimation & Extrapolation Concerns

- **How to estimate annual average prices for countries without first quarter surveys**
- **How to adjust construction & equipment prices to 2005 levels if price surveys will be conducted in 2006**
- **How to extrapolate GDP weights to 2005 levels**

Major Agreements of the RAB

RAB Agreements

- DRWs are top priority & minimum of 2 workshops should be conducted
- Suggested that raw price data in TP be available in Excel format aside from XML
- Countries need domestic experts for price surveys on construction & equipment
- Confidentiality policy of the countries will be honored in respect of data access

Funding Issues

Funding Situation/Issues

- **GO provided funds for ring list workshop; DRWs; finalization of non-household list.**
- **Significant funding is required for the ff:
Data Review Workshops (DRWs)
Consultants for construction; equipment & machinery**
- **RO is requesting for funding from the GO for the construction & equipment sectors**

Advocacy Activities

Advocacy Activities

- **Participating countries found the ICP brochures prepared by the GO to be useful in explaining the uses of PPPs in their countries**
- **UN SIAP has invited the ICP Asia Pacific RO as resource person on the ICP in the “First Regional Course on Price Statistics and Introduction to ICP” in Maldives on 26-30 September**

Other Household Consumption Product List

Health & Pharmaceuticals

- Six pharmaceutical products were proposed to be deleted:
 - Fluphenazine Decaonate
 - Pyrimethamine with suldoxine
 - Zidovudine
 - Indinavir
 - Nevirapine
 - Artesunate
- Two paramedical services were proposed to be deleted:
 - Assistant nurse home visit I
 - Assistant nurse home visit II
- Need to specify if “paramedical services” is rendered by private or health sector

Education

- Reference PPPs will be utilized for public education
- Education Services PSs to be developed only for private education
 - Pre-primary & primary education
 - Secondary education
 - Tertiary education (computer science)
 - Tertiary education (excluding first degree in computer science)
 - Foreign language course
 - Private lessons in mathematics (outside school hours)
 - Music course or lessons

Ring List Workshop

Total Number of Revised/Deleted Items from the Ring List

Shop Items				Non-Shop Items			
	GO List	Revised	Deleted		GO List	Revised	Deleted
Clothing	127	41	24	Catering	77	5	17
Food	407	164	95	Communication	38	5	6
Footwear	28	6	1	Dwelling	66	14	37
Furniture	175	64	34	Other goods & services	74	4	1
Recreation	131	56	18	Services for routine HH maintenance	6	1	4
				Transportation	149	27	52
Total	868	331	172	Total	410	56	117

Thank you

Example of an Expanded Product

Shirt, business men's (50-100% cotton)	Original Product expanded to include 2 new products
Shirt, business men's (50-80% cotton)	Additional product
Shirt, business men's (above 80% cotton)	Additional product

Product with Changes/Modifications in Product Specifications

Original Specs	New Specs
Coconut — young (green)	
Processing: Fresh chunks, pieces, sliced	Type: Coconut Young (Green), with husk and shell Processing: None
Moving and freight charge combination	
Weight: Over 1000 kg–5000 kg Type of Freight: Freight by any means Distance: 100–500 km	Weight: 2500 kg Type of Freight: Freight by road, using truck Distance: 300 km Condition of Road: Good

Product with Clarifications in Product Specifications

Product	Clarification in PS
Dried shrimp	Dried shrimp with shell, head & tail; body length 1.5 -2 cm
Oranges	5 pieces per kg, yellow or green, local